

March 17, 2008

Mr. Kevin B. Page
Chief of Rail of Transportation
Department of Rail and Public Transportation
1313 E. Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219

Subject: Roanoke Intermodal Facility

Dear Mr. Page:

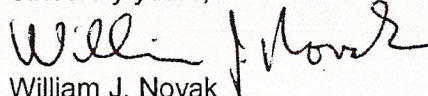
Pursuant to your request, HDR reviewed the independence of our analyses in the preparation of the Roanoke Intermodal Facility economic, environmental and screening studies. During the preparation of the studies we worked closely with DRPT but had only very limited contact with Norfolk Southern (NS). Our contact with NS was limited mainly to the acquisition of information, plans and data necessary to perform our analyses. Those contacts with NS consisted of requests for engineering and design plans for the individual intermodal facility sites being evaluated, for train operations and container freight data and for other information to assess use of the sites. (Locations of the alternative sites were supplied to us by DRPT.)

In only one instance did we request from NS a review of material prepared by HDR. That request was for a review of a small portion (approximately three pages) of our draft report to confirm the accuracy of our depiction of NS operations information that they had supplied to us. We did not furnish any of our other findings, draft or final reports, or other information to NS for comment or review and neither did we have any other contacts with NS to discuss our analyses or findings.

Given these facts, we can say with confidence, that the HDR analysis conducted in support of the Roanoke Intermodal Facility project was conducted independent of Norfolk Southern involvement.

If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely yours,



William J. Novak
Program Manager